James Root 84 Lake Ave Danbury, CT 06810

April 2, 2018

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is James Root and I live in Danbury. I support HB 5544, concerning misdemeanor sentencing. The adjustments recommended by the CT Sentencing Commission, in this legislation, are completely warranted given capricious nature of the federal misdemeanor/felony classification/definition system for non-citizens. Aside from civil and human rights ethical issues, said federal system, unchecked, has a distorting, suppressive effect on our state's law enforcement and adjudication. HB5544 will help Connecticut handle these cases in a way that best for the state. Please follow the recommendations of the Sentencing Commission, put the state first, and vote to advance HB 5544 to the assembly for further consideration.

Sincerely, James Root